



# SABAH WETLANDS NEWSLETTER

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2014

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## Swcs Fundraising Dinner

*Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society (SWCS) / Pertubuhan Pemuliharaan Tanah Lembap Sabah was established on 22 August 2005*

### OBJECTIVES

- ◆ To promote the conservation of wetlands in Sabah and the variety of plants, birds and other kinds of organisms found in them.
- ◆ To raise public awareness and appreciation of wetlands and public involvement in protecting wetlands.
- ◆ To manage Kota Kinabalu Wetlands (KKW) as a model wetlands centre for the purpose of conservation, education, recreation, tourism and research.

On the eve of 5th September 2014, the SWCS Fundraising Dinner ended with a high note where everyone went home with a satisfactory smile. Although held for the very first time in SWCS history,

the fundraising dinner held in Hakka Hall, KK was a resounding success. Truly, we are honoured to have Tuan Yang Terutama Tun Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Haji Juhar bin Haji Mahirudin and Datuk Pang Nyuk Ming to grace this fundraising dinner. Not to mention the large amount of support from other government bodies, NGOs and individuals that had attended the dinner. Their presence alone is a clear testament of support towards wetlands conservation.

Clearly, the main objective of the dinner is to raise funds for the conservation, preservation and management of wetlands in Sabah. Thanks to the contribution of all our kind donors, we've received a generous amount of about RM 131,300 from the fundraising dinner. Of course, the night itself is not only about raising funds but to also acknowledge exceptional individuals and groups for their contributions towards wetland conservation. Congratulations to the recipients for outstanding contributions, which are Eugene Cheah, Lee Yoon Ling, Siti Rusni Hanafiah, Kan Yaw Chong, and Mastupang bin Somoi & associates.

The night was accompanied with scrumptious food, gorgeous batiks and jaw dropping performances. We could not ever ask for a better outcome and we will definitely be looking



Tuan Yang Terutama Tun Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Haji Juhar bin Haji Mahirudin receive appreciation gift from Datuk Haji Zainie Abdul Aucasa SWCS President



Singing performance from local artist Rossa and her Band.



Photo of SWCS committee members and staff



Wetlands Champ Mastupang bin Somoi & associates

**Hole-In-One Prize!**  
Mitsubishi ASX 4WD Compact SUV

**Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society**

**FOR ENQUIRIES & REGISTRATION:  
088-246 955**

**Towards Conservation of Sabah Wetlands  
Fundraising Golf Tournament**  
Saturday, 6th September 2014  
Sutera Harbour Golf & Country Club

\* If there are more than one winner, prize will be shared among winners

What better way to create awareness among Sabah's golfing enthusiasts about the environment? Why, organize a golf tournament of course! On 6th September 2014 at the Sutera Harbour Golf & Country Club (KK), our golfers tee-offed by 7.00 am and played up until 2.30 pm. All proceeds of the golf tournament are used in conservation efforts for Sabah's precious wetlands. We are happy to announce that we have managed to achieve our objectives of raising funds and creating awareness.



Group photo of all participant for the golf tournament taken before going to the golf field..

On the day itself, everyone had a jolly good time on the golf course. That is because the golfer knew that they are playing for a good cause. By the end of the tournament, attractive prizes were given out to the winners after the charity golf tournament. This includes a brand new Mitsubishi ASX 4WD Compact SUV, a 42" flat screen TV, and many more. Although not all participants brought home prizes from the tournament, however everyone was a winner that day because they have championed the cause of wetland conservation.



Mr Eddie From Talisman Limited is one of our golf participant.



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Sharing knowledge and forming active connections with others are vital to the development of our collective understanding towards wetlands conservation. That is the reason behind holding the SWCS International Symposium on Conservation and Management of Wetlands (ISCMW) 2014. The specific objectives are to form networks with Ramsar managers in Malaysia and to share sustainable financing methods for wetlands through a line-up of presentations and interactive workshops. The symposium co-chaired by SWCS and JICA-SDBEC on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of September at Le Meridien hotel, Kota Kinabalu. With a total of 84 participants, 4 speakers, 5 Malaysian Ramsar Managers, 2 workshop moderators; it can be said that the symposium is poised to be educational and thought inducing.

**Day 1**

The first day of the International Symposium started off with an opening ceremony by Yang Berhormat Datuk Seri Panglima Masidi Manjun, Minister of Tourism Culture and Environment Sabah with Datuk Haji Zainie Abdul Aucasa, President of Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society.



This was followed by the keynote address “Innovative Sustainable Financing of Wetlands” by Ms. Midori Paxton, Regional Technical Advisor, Biodiversity & Ecosystem, United Nation Development Programme (UNDP), Thailand. After a short break, the other 3 speakers: Mr. Nyoman Suryadiputra, Mr. Bena Smith, and Mr. Danial Lee gave their respective speeches.



Presentation of appreciation to Yang Berhormat Datuk Seri Panglima Masidi Manjun, Minister of Tourism Culture and Environment Sabah

Then, the Ramsar managers got a chance to share a presentation titled “Best Practices and Challenges in Managing Ramsar Sites.

**Day 2**

The second day of the International Symposium was not as glamorous but no less important. A general wrap up of the two workshops were conducted early in the morning followed by a presentation on the outputs and recommendations of said workshops. Afterwards, the outcomes are discussed among the panels followed by the closing ceremony. Finally, 34 participants visited Kota Kinabalu Wetlands at noon to mark the end of the international symposium.



International Symposium Participant group photo at Kota Kinabalu Wetlands

Overall, the event was a huge success. Everyone benefited from the international symposium one way or another. Without a doubt, each participant would have either: expanded their network or deepened their knowledge. We are definitely looking forward to the next big thing, who knows if we would hold another symposium?

## Mangrove Our—Priceless Treasure



Detectives needed! Look out for water pollution!



They say that teamwork divides the task and multiplies the success, which is why we've collaborated with Bank Islam Malaysia in an effort to preserve the environment by maintaining and restoring mangrove that are increasingly threatened by the course of development. On 27<sup>th</sup> September 2014, we held the launching ceremony of Bank Islam Malaysia's 'One Earth, One Quest: Mangroves, our Priceless Treasure' project.



On the 9<sup>th</sup> of August, students around KK have revisited Kota Kinabalu Wetlands for the second part of Shell's "Detective needed! Look out for Water Pollution" project. Students from SM All Saints, SM Shantao, SM Tun Fuad, and SM Likas have joined us once again to investigate the sources of water pollution around our wetlands and discover the effects towards its inhabitants. The findings of this workshop agrees with the previous workshop.



In this project, we've projected that 2,200 saplings will be planted in our new replanting site at Sulaman Lake Forest Reserve, Tuaran, Sabah. To realize this ambitious project, a total of RM35,000 was kindly donated by Bank Islam Malaysia to Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society. Dato' Wan Ismail Yusoh, General Manager of Strategic Relations, Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad was present to pass the cheque over to Datuk Haji Zainie Andul Aucasa, SWCS president.

### Activity Photo

One of the activity that we have after the launching ceremony are mangrove replanting at one of our rehabilitation mangrove



Clean up and water quality monitoring on progress



replanting site at Tuaran. It took about 45 minute drive from KK Wetlands and there all participant participated on the replanting activity. As result we manage to replant 280 new mangrove sapling there.

One of the student from Smk Datuk Peter Mojuntin planting the mangrove sapling



## Science faculty UITM, Mangrove Tour



About 25 scientists in training from the Science Faculty of UiTM had visited Kota Kinabalu Wetlands on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2014 to get some outdoor education on wetlands environment while getting a good dose of nature. These passionate students



asked plenty of questions and are keen to learn. Everyone returned home with deeper knowledge and a strong

## SMI Holidays



On 26<sup>th</sup> August 2014, 36 University Students from Japan decided to drop by and volunteered themselves to replant some mangroves. Everyone was in high spirits and nothing seems to be able to dampen the mood one bit; not even the mud, sweat and tears! Even after a long and tiring day, our guests appear more

## SMI Holidays

Pre-U students and teachers from Sabah Nature Club of Preuniversity SMK Tambunana wanted to be in touch with nature and made the effort to replant some mangroves in our Tuaran replanting site on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2014. Although small in number (22 volunteers), they compensate by having a big heart.



Support us by taking part in our educational programmes:

- KK Wetlands Mangrove Experience programme
- Mangrove Conservation Experience programme (includes tree planting in Tuaran).

For information, call 088-246955, or write to [swcs@sabahwetlands.org](mailto:swcs@sabahwetlands.org)

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